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13 December 1958

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CENTRAL

INTELLIGENCE

BULLETIN



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DAILY BRIEF



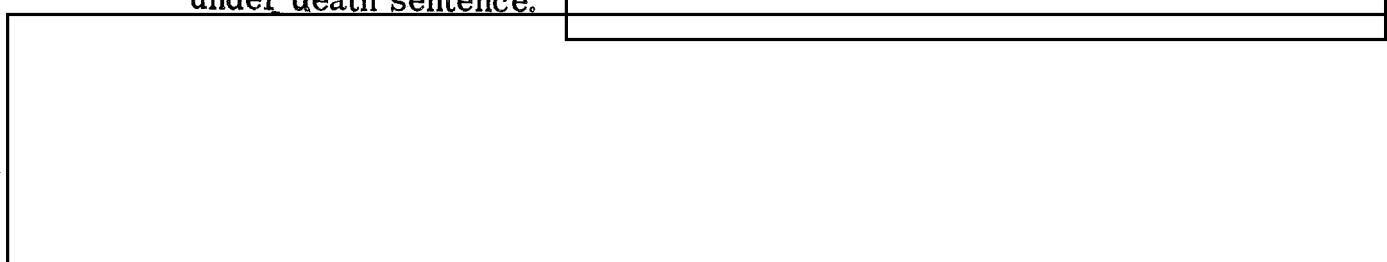
II. ASIA-AFRICA

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***UAR-Iraq:** Nasir is reported "dismayed" by the arrest of pro-UAR figures in Iraq, and has voiced even stronger concern than heretofore that the Qasim regime will fall under the influence of Communist elements. Cairo continues cautious in both public and private pronouncements on recent developments in Iraq.

In Baghdad, rumors are widespread that some secret executions have taken place. Speculation centers not only on the conspirators in the recent plot, but also on Jamali and other pro-Western adherents of the old regime who have been under death sentence.

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Turkey-Israel: In a significant shift in its Middle East policy, Turkey may soon strengthen diplomatic and economic ties with Israel. An exchange of ministers, which the two countries are considering, would be sure to draw an adverse Arab reaction.

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Kenya: British officials in Kenya anticipate a civil disobedience campaign in the next two months initiated by African leaders as a means of building up pressure to obtain assurances that Kenya will be permitted to evolve as an essentially African state. The British fear that some disorders are likely.

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III. THE WEST

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Honduras: Tension is rising in the wake of the armed forces' demand on 8 December that the President establish a coalition government and halt partisan attempts to undermine the position of the military. Military forces in the important city of San Pedro Sula--a stronghold of the President's Liberal party--expect clashes with armed civilians at any time.

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Brazil: Government officials apparently intend to establish new machinery to expand trade with the Soviet bloc, possibly including a special office in Europe. At the same time, however, they continue to deny any intention of broadening diplomatic relations beyond the present ties with Poland and Czechoslovakia, and appear opposed to permitting a Soviet trade office in Rio de Janeiro.

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DAILY BRIEF

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Turkey and Israel May Restore Normal Relations

Turkey and Israel are approaching agreement to resume ministerial representation after nearly two years of reduced diplomatic status, according to the Israeli first secretary in Ankara. The legations of both countries have been run by chargés d'affaires since the Turks withdrew their minister to Israel in early 1957, in the aftermath of the Israeli invasion of Egypt. Having lost its close ties with Iraq, Ankara may feel less compulsion to consider the reactions of the Arab countries.

The Israelis have long been pressing the Turks to resume relations on the ministerial level. The Turks, however, may see no particular urgency. [Redacted]

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[Redacted]
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An expansion of trade relations is also apparently under discussion, although any significant increase in economic activity seems unlikely. [Redacted]

[Redacted]
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[Redacted]
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Early Civil Disobedience Campaign by Africans in Kenya Likely

British officials in Kenya believe African nationalists in that crown colony, led by the 14 elected African members of the local Legislative Council, will probably launch a civil disobedience campaign sometime in the next two months, most likely in February. The officials fear such a campaign--foreshadowed in the statements of Kenya's two principal African leaders at the All-African Peoples' Conference in Accra this week--would lead to "disturbances," but they claim they are prepared to meet that contingency.

The principal objective would be to force constitutional talks in which the nationalists could press their long-standing demands for greater representation of Kenya's 6,000,000 Africans in the 85-member council, and for the abolition of certain features of the present constitution, instituted by British Colonial Secretary Lennox-Boyd late last year. These demands were rejected by Lennox-Boyd last month. Ultimately, however, the Africans, whose basic complaint is the dominant political and economic position of the 60,000 Europeans in Kenya, are unlikely to be satisfied with anything less than formal recognition of the principle of eventual majority rule and a plan leading to self-government by stages.

British officials are trying, without much optimism, to find a formula for conciliating the Africans within the framework of the present constitution. British officials and settler leaders alike are concerned over the growth of a Mau-Mau-type anti-European secret tribal society outlawed last January, and about the vigorous campaign by African leaders to glorify and force the release of convicted Mau-Mau leader Jomo Kenyatta, sentenced to seven years in 1953. [redacted]

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25X1 [redacted]

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III. THE WEST

Civilian-Military Rivalry in Honduras Nears Climax

Members of the administration Liberal party in the important north coast city of San Pedro Sula are "boiling mad" over the armed forces' 8 December demand that President Villeda reorganize his government to include representatives of the opposition and put an end to partisan efforts to reduce the authority of the military. Honduran Liberals are undoubtedly considering means, including violence, to eliminate what they regard as the military effort to dictate to the civil government.

Military forces in San Pedro Sula have been augmented with the concentration there of garrisons normally stationed in smaller north coast towns. The approximately 1,200 troops now in the city are on the alert and expect clashes with armed Liberals at any time.

Even a relatively minor incident could set off serious violence. The Liberals have an unknown but probably sizable quantity of arms and, while they would probably not plan a direct assault on an army garrison, their public demonstrations, such as the one planned for 14 December in San Pedro Sula, could easily get out of control. In the event of serious rioting, the armed forces would probably depose the President-- a move they were considering before they handed him their ultimatum.

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Brazilian - Soviet-bloc Trade Developments

Brazil's determination to explore all possibilities of increasing trade with the Soviet bloc is underscored by the acknowledgment that negotiations with the USSR have been going on for two months in Washington and the announcement that the Foreign Ministry's chief economic officer plans to visit Prague and Warsaw in the near future. A policy of actively seeking bloc markets was formalized last August as part of Brazil's effort to stem its serious balance of payments difficulties and prevent cutbacks in its economic development program.

Although top Brazilian officials have characterized as "unacceptable" or "deficient" all bloc offers received since the conclusion in October of a small-scale cocoa-for-oil barter deal with the Soviet Union, the Foreign Ministry reportedly is discussing plans for a special office in Europe to help screen and centralize the growing number of bloc feelers.

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President Kubitschek's statement on 10 December that his administration will never renew "either diplomatic or commercial relations with the Soviet Union" was probably designed to counterbalance this publicity and to rule out the possibility of a formal treaty or exchange of commercial agents.

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